

five years, should achieve a five percent per year decrease in costs incurred for operation and maintenance of information technology, and a five percent increase in operational efficiency through improvements in information resources management.

Subtitle E—National Security Systems

The conference agreement includes a provision that would exclude national security systems from provisions of this Act, unless otherwise provided in this Act.

TITLE LVII—PROCESS FOR ACQUISITIONS OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Procurement procedures (sec. 5201)

The conference agreement includes a provision that would direct the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council to ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that the information technology process is simplified, clear, and understandable. The process should specifically address the management of risk, incremental acquisitions, and the need to incorporate commercial information technology in a timely manner.

The conferees agree that, in performing oversight of information technology acquisitions, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, agency heads, and agency inspectors general should emphasize program results and established performance measurements, rather than reviews of the acquisition process.

Incremental acquisition of information technology (sec. 5202)

The conference agreement includes a provision that would provide for procedures in the Federal Acquisition Regulations for the incremental acquisition of major information technology systems by the Department of Defense and the civilian executive agencies.

TITLE LVIII—INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ACQUISITION PILOT PROGRAMS

Subtitle A—Conduct of Pilot Programs

The conference agreement includes provisions that would authorize the Administrator of Office of Federal Procurement Policy, in consultation with the Administrator of Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, to: conduct pilot programs to test alternative acquisition approaches for information technology; conduct no more than two pilots, not to exceed \$750 million for a period not to exceed five years; require agency heads to develop evaluation and test plans; prepare and submit test plans to Congress prior to implementation; report on results within 180 days after completion; and make recommendations for legislation.

Subtitle B—Specific Pilot Programs

The conference agreement includes provisions that would provide for two specific pilot programs, the share-in-savings pilot program and the solutions-based contracting pilot program.

TITLE LIV—ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RESOURCES MANAGEMENT MATTERS

On-line multiple award schedule contracting (sec. 5401)

The conference agreement includes a provision that would require the Administrator of General Services to provide for on-line access to multiple award schedules for information technology. The system would provide basic information on prices, features, and similar matters, allow for information updates, enable comparison of product information, enable on-line ordering and invoicing, permit on-line payment, and archive order data. The provision would also authorize a pilot program to test streamlined procedures for the automated system. The conference agreement directs the Administrator of General Services to incor-

porate its information technology multiple award schedules into Federal Acquisition Computer Network (FACNET) by January 1, 1998, and would make the pilot program discretionary. The conferees agree that the procedures established by the Administrator for use of FACNET be consistent with the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act requirements regarding the multiple award schedule (41 U.S.C. 259(B)(3)). If the Administrator determines it is not practicable to provide such access through FACNET, the Administrator shall provide such access through another automated system that has the capability to perform the functions listed in subsection 259(b)(1) and meets the requirement of subsection 259(b)(2).

Disposal of excess computer equipment (sec. 5402)

The conference agreement includes a provision that would require agencies to inventory all agency computer equipment and to identify excess or surplus property. The conferees direct that the Administrator of General Services, in exercising current authority under title II of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 481 et seq.), donate federal surplus personal property to public organizations. The conferees direct the Administrator to prescribe regulations that establish a priority for the donation of surplus computer equipment in the following sequence: (1) elementary and secondary schools, and schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs; (2) public libraries; (3) public colleges and universities; and (4) other entities eligible for donation of federal surplus personal property under title II of that Act.

Access of certain information in information systems to the directory established under section 4101 of title 44, United States Code (sec. 5403)

The conference agreement includes a provision that would ensure that, for agency information systems that disseminate information to the public, an index of information is included in the Government Printing Office (GPO) directory established under 44 U.S.C. 4101.

In 1993, Congress directed the GPO to create an online directory, of federal public information in electronic form (Public Law 103-40). Today, that system is accessible to the general public directly and through the Federal Depository Libraries. Yet, in the two years since enactment of the GPO access bill, technology has moved forward dramatically in its ability to support location and search of the physically-distributed, locally-maintained databases. Congress recognized this shift in the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13). That Act requires Federal agencies to ensure access to agency public information by "encouraging a diversity of public and private sources". It also directs the Office of Management and Budget to establish a distributed, electronic, agency-based Government Information Locator Service (GILS) to identify the major information dissemination products of each agency. As the Senate report noted (S. Rept. 104-112), GILS: " * * * will provide multiple avenues for public access to government information by pointing to specific agency information holdings. To make this possible, agencies' systems must be compatible. Thus, agency GILS information should be available to the public through the Government Printing Office Locator System (established pursuant to Public Law 103-40) in addition to any other required methods, agencies may choose to efficiently and effectively provide public and agency access to GILS."

Section 5403 further clarifies the intent of Congress to ensure the widest possible access

to Federal public information through a diversity of compatible sources.

TITLE LV—PROCUREMENT PROTEST AUTHORITY OF THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL

The conference agreement includes a provision that would require the Comptroller General to issue a decision relating to a bid protest within 100 days.

TITLE LVI—CONFORMING AND CLERICAL AMENDMENTS

The conference agreement includes a series of clarifying and technical changes to acquisition statutes throughout the United States Code.

TITLE LVII—EFFECTIVE DATE, SAVINGS PROVISIONS, AND RULE OF CONSTRUCTION

Effective date (sec. 5701)

The conference agreement includes a provision that would provide for this division and the amendments made by this division to take effect 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Savings provisions (sec. 5702)

The conference agreement includes a provision that would allow selected information technology actions and acquisition proceedings, including claims or applications, that have been initiated by, or are pending before, Administrator of the General Services or the General Services Administration Board of Contract Appeals to be continued under original terms, until terminated, revoked, or superseded in accordance with law, by the Director of OMB, by a court, or by operation of law. The Director of OMB is authorized to establish regulations for transferring such actions and proceedings.

FLOYD SPENCE,
BOB STUMP,
DUNCAN HUNTER,
HERBERT H. BATEMAN,
CURT WELDON,
G.V. MONTGOMERY,
JOHN M. SPRATT, Jr.,

Managers on the Part of the House.

STROM THURMOND,
JOHN WARNER,
BILL COHEN,
TRENT LOTT,
SAM NUNN,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BENTSEN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POMEROY, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. BENTSEN, for 5 minutes, today.
Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

Mr. GINGRICH, (at the request of Mr. SMITH of Texas) notwithstanding the fact that it exceeds two pages and is estimated to cost \$4,982.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BENTSEN) and to include extraneous matters:)

Mr. BERMAN.
Mr. STARK, in four instances.
Mr. KANJORSKI.